



News From MAIENstreet

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilman Brian Maienschein



October 2003

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**Proudly Representing the
District Five
Communities of:**

Carmel Mountain Ranch

Mira Mesa

Rancho Bernardo

Sabre Springs

San Pasqual

Scripps Ranch

Sorrento Mesa



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New Trench-Cut Ordinance Improves Public Safety

Many of you know what it's like. You live or drive on a bumpy street sorely in need of repaving. You patiently wait for city crews to begin, and then complete, the resurfacing. Then soon after new asphalt is down, a utility company rips part of it up to dig a trench for new telephone, cable or other lines. They eventually fill the hole, cover it with an unsightly patch, and the street is a mess again.

During my first year in office in 2000, I spent numerous hours to have Capricorn Way in Mira Mesa resurfaced. It had not been repaired in years. I was outraged when, only one week after the repaving, an out-of-town fiber optic company brought in trucks, set up detours, made the road unusable, and caused traffic delays and noise as it ripped up the new asphalt on Capricorn Way to dig a trench — all without a city permit. I also responded to similar experiences involving many other streets.

Unfortunately, these frustrations are common in neighborhoods throughout San Diego. They are more than mere inconveniences. They reveal poor planning, unnecessarily jeopardize public safety, further burden the transportation system, and waste taxpayer money. City government can and must do a better job of managing our public resources.

San Diego has never had a trench-cut ordinance, even though one was desperately needed to protect the aesthetics of local streets and preserve residents' peace-of-mind. It has taken far too long to develop this ordinance.

(Story continued on Page 2)

Maienschein Secures Funding for Police Storefront

Many of you know that during this last fiscal year, budget constraints forced the city, along with the state, to cut many important programs and services.

In Carmel Mountain Ranch, we were faced with the possibility of cutting funding for the Diamond Gateway Police Storefront.

After working with the City Manager's office, I secured funding to extend the lease for the storefront for an additional year.



Update on Miramar Dam Closure



SCRIPPS RANCH — I am still working to find a way to open the path around Miramar Dam for recreation users. As a security precaution after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, the California Department of Health Services ordered the city to install a chain-link fence that blocked access to the path. I know this closure, combined with the lack of notice before the fence went up, frustrated many residents who enjoyed walking, running, bicycling and rollerblading completely around Miramar Lake.

I have been successful in persuading water and security officials to open the path for the Scripps Ranch Old Pros Bike & Run Races on both July 4, 2002 and 2003. My goal is to gain access like this on a more frequent basis.

Last year, the city received a \$115,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to fund a study of security procedures at Miramar Lake, as well as at all other City water facilities. The study, which began in November 2002, was recently completed, and the City Council is expecting to receive a report of the results in the near future. Once I receive this report, I will push to reopen the dam. I will also continue to provide updates to the community as news develops.

(TRENCH-CUT ORDINANCE-Continued from page 1)

This is why I took up the challenge.

Now, after diligent work with City staff, utility company representatives, citizens, and others, on Tuesday, September 9, the City Council approved a trench-cut ordinance that will make our streets and neighborhoods safer and more pleasant, while saving tax dollars through proper planning and accountability.

Key ordinance provisions include:

- No trenching will be allowed within the first three years of a new or resurfaced street unless it is an emergency.
- Where trenching is permitted, the utility company must resurface the whole width of the street, not just the trenched portion.
- Utility companies must pay fees to dig up streets that have not surpassed their service lives.
- Utility companies and city crews must repair flawed trenches in 30 days.



MAIENstreet Baby News

My wife, Janna, and I are thrilled to share with you that our daughter, Taylin, has experienced two important milestones this fall.

Along with family and friends, we celebrated her first birthday on September 17. And one evening, as we both watched, Taylin took her first steps!



Stop signs increase safety

SCRIPPS RANCH — I recently directed the installation of stop signs on Scripps Creek Drive at Wills Creek Road in front of Dingeman Elementary School. As many of you know, the curves along Scripps Creek make the road dangerous for drivers, pedestrians, and especially for the elementary students crossing to go to Dingeman Elementary. It is my hope that this new three-way stop will make the area surrounding the school a safer place for children and their families.



Due to the installation of the stop signs, the crossing guard at the intersection of Wills Creek and Scripps Creek will move to the middle of the block. Children walking along Spruce Run and Wills Creek will be directed from both streets to one safe area in a location more visible to drivers.

Prepared to Save Lives in Our Community

RANCHO BERNARDO — On October 6, a lifesaving device called an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) was installed at the Bernardo Heights Community Center.

As a result of this installation, the devices are now available in all nine community centers in Rancho Bernardo, in addition to those I previously provided to Mira Mesa, Sabre Springs and Scripps Ranch.

In the event of a coronary emergency, these instruments deliver a shock to the heart in order to re-establish a normal heart rhythm. If utilized within one minute, there is a 90 percent chance of resuscitation. AEDs are proven to be safe, effective and successful when administered properly.

Due to my strong belief that these instruments will help preserve the lives of our friends and family members, my office paid for installation of the device at the Bernardo Heights Community Center.

Last year, I partnered with the Rancho Bernardo Foundation and the Rancho Bernardo Chamber of Commerce in order to reduce the cost of these life-saving devices from \$2,500 to \$865 per unit.

In addition to Bernardo Heights, participating community centers include: Seven Oaks, Oaks North, RB Swim & Tennis Club, High Country West, Westwood, East View, Rancho Bernardo Community Park, and the Joslyn Center. Employees at each location were trained to operate the equipment.

AEDs are also present in the Mira Mesa Senior Center, the Sabre Springs/Carmel Mountain Ranch Recreation Center, the Scripps Ranch Recreation Center and the Scripps Ranch Library.



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<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-council/district-5>

From my website, you can also sign up to receive **e-News from MAIENstreet** every month via e-mail.

It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!